

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 11 is amended to correct an informality and not for any reason related to patentability.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,859,415 to Blomqvist et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

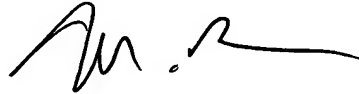
Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's assertion that Blomqvist discloses a control apparatus including a storage unit including a table storing identification information assigned to the control apparatus and identification information of another control apparatus as in independent claim 1, a control system including a first storage unit for storing the identification information of a control apparatus's own and the identification information of the other control apparatuses to which registration update information is added in a table of a control the apparatus's own as in independent claim 2, a control system including a first transmission unit of a first control apparatus transmitting identification information of the first control apparatus to a second control apparatus, the first transmission unit of the second control apparatus transmitting identification information of the second control apparatus to the first control apparatus, as well as the reception units and first storage units of the first and second control apparatus of independent claim 9.

Instead, Blomqvist discloses a computer 11 which provides controls and processing of recorded data. In Blomqvist, there are no controllers with associated identification data. Instead, Blomqvist discloses a transponder 13 and an intelligent card 14 which transmits data via transponder in addition to certain identification data. See, e.g., col. 2, lines 45-53. The transponder and the intelligent card are not control apparatus. As discussed in the specification, for example, at page 12, line 8, et seq., the control apparatus may output a control signal for driving various actuators. The transponder and intelligent card of Blomqvist are passive devices.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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